



## *High Emitter Profile and Randomly Selected Vehicles*

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**I**n order to comply with the new mandates of federal Clean Air Act, the Department of Consumer Affairs/Bureau of Automotive Repair (DCA/BAR) is directing fifteen percent (15%) of all vehicles in Enhanced Areas to Test-Only Stations for their Smog Checks. Thirteen percent (13%) are selected by application of the High Emitter Profile, which identifies the vehicles most likely to fail their Smog Checks, with the remaining two percent (2%) to be randomly selected.

**High Emitter Profile.** The High Emitter Profile (HEP) uses data from several different sources. Some of it comes from the state Vehicle Identification Database (VID), which collects data from Smog Checks transferred by modem during each individual test to the state VID and is used by the Department of Motor Vehicles, BAR, and other government agencies. Data available from Smog Check inspections performed before the VID was established are also used to establish the HEP. In addition, general vehicle data such as make, model year, vehicle miles traveled, and engine size help define the HEP.

The data are then sorted to determine which vehicles are most likely to fail their Smog Checks, especially at Gross Polluters levels—at least two times the emissions level allowed for the particular make and model of the vehicle. While no single factor identifies a vehicle that is likely to fail, the greatest weight is given to each individual vehicle's Smog Check history. This means that a well-maintained vehicle which has passed its previous Smog Checks is unlikely to be identified by the High Emitter Profile, while a poorly-maintained vehicle of the same year, make, and model with a poor Smog Check history may be identified by the HEP as likely to fail.

**Two Percent Randomly Selected.** Two percent of the vehicle fleet in the Enhanced Areas that are subject to the Smog Check program will be called into a Test-Only Station. These vehicles are selected randomly, not because they have poor Smog Check histories, but to evaluate the Smog Check program's overall effectiveness.

**How Motorists are Notified.** The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) notifies owners of vehicles which have been selected to have their initial Smog Check inspections performed at Test-Only Stations. The Renewal Notice sent to these vehicles will say "Smog Certification Required at Test-Only Facility."

Moreover, if a motorist does not see this statement on his or her Renewal Notice and he or she takes the vehicle to a test-and-repair station, the technician at the station will be unable to certify the motorist's vehicle. The motorist will still need to have the vehicle inspected at a Test-Only Station. To locate a Test-Only Station, call (800) 952-5210 or visit our web site ([www.smogcheck.org](http://www.smogcheck.org)).

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